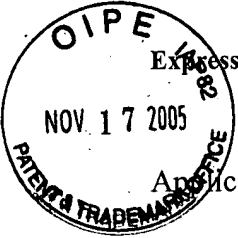


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PATENT

ATTY. DKT. NO. 138543



Express Mail No.: EV 593383343 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yadong Li et al.

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Art Unit: 2124

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Serial No.: 10/659,184

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Examiner:

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Filed: September 10, 2003

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For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS
FOR IMPLEMENTING A
SPECKLE REDUCTION FILTER

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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[Handwritten signature of Dean D. Small]
Dean D. Small, Reg. No. 34,730

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following are submitted in the above application in compliance with 37 CFR 1.97 and 37 CFR 1.98.

- ☒ 1. A list of documents on Form PTO-1449 or Substitute together with copies of each identified document and a translation thereof or a concise explanation of each non-English language document or a Search Report or communication from a non-US patent office or an International Search Report from an International Searching Authority for a patent application filed via the Patent Cooperation Treaty or document(s) cited in the application or the priority application.

This paper is submitted in accordance with:

- ☒ 2. 37 CFR 1.97(b): [within three months of national, non-CPA filing, prior to first Office Action, on the merits, or prior to first office action after filing an RCE]

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- ☐ 3. 37 CFR 1.97(c): [before Final Office Action, Allowance, or other action closing prosecution, whichever is earlier]; and
- ☐ a. The required Certification made in item 5 below; or
- ☐ b. The \$180.00 fee specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) for submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is authorized in item 6 below.
- ☐ 4. 37 CFR 1.97(d): [on or before issue fee payment]; and
- ☐ a. The required Certification is stated in item 5 below; and
- ☐ b. The \$180.00 fee specified in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is authorized in item 6 below.
- ☒ 5. Certification
- ☒ a. Each item of information contained in this Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement; or
- ☐ b. No item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application and, to the knowledge of the person signing this document after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three (3) months prior to the filing date of this Statement.
- ☒ 6. Payment of all applicable fees:
- ☒ Please charge all applicable fees associated with the submittal of this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 01-2384.
- ☐ Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$_____ in payment of all applicable fees associated with the submittal of this Information Disclosure Statement.

This document is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dean D. Small, Reg. No. 34,730
Armstrong Teasdale LLP
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 621-5070

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Sheet 2 of 2 | Application Number | 10/659,184 |
| | Filing Date | September 10, 2003 |
| | First Named Inventor | Yadong Li, et al. |
| | Art Unit | 2124 |
| | Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | | 138543 |

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| | A | GREINER T ET AL: "Speckle reduction in ultrasonic imaging for medical applications" SPEECH PROCESSING 2, VLSI, UNDERWATER SIGNAL PROCESSING. TORONTO, MAY 14-17, 1991, INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ACOUSTICS, SPEECH & SIGNAL PROCESSING. ICASSP, NEW YORK, IEEE, US, deel VOL. 2 CONF. 16, 14 APRIL 1991 (1991-04-14), bladzijden 2993-2996, XP010043636 ISBN: 0-7803-0003-3 | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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